Calendar No. 1009

82D CONGRESS, 2d Session | SENATE | REPORT No. 1071

UNIV. OF MICH.
JAN 29 1952
LAW LIBRARY

JOHN TZANAVARIS

JANUARY 21 (legislative day, JANUARY 10), 1952.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. MCCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1428]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 1428) for the relief of John Tzanavaris, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to grant the status of permanent residence in the United States to John Tzanavaris. The bill provides for an appropriate quota deduction and for the payment of the required visa fee and head tax.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiary of the bill is a 24-year-old native and citizen of Greece who last entered the United States as a student on September 20, 1950. He attended Morris-Harvey College in Charleston, W. Va., and has been employed by the Carbide & Carbon Chemicals Corp., South Charleston, W. Va., His mother and sister are now residents of the United States and he also has a brother who is a citizen of the United States.

A letter dated September 11, 1951, to the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary from the Deputy Attorney General with reference to the case reads as follows:

SEPTEMBER 11, 1951.

Hon. PAT MCCARRAN,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
United States Senate, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR SENATOR: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (S. 1428) for the relief of John Tzanavaris, an alien.

The bill would provide that John Tzanavaris shall be considered to have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence as of the date of its enactment, upon the payment of the required head tax and visa fee. It would further direct the Secretary of State to instruct the quota-control officer to deduct one number from the appropriate immigration quota.

The files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service of this Department disclose that John Tzanavaris is a native and citizen of Greece, who was born on October 3, 1927, in Piraeus, Athens, Greece, He arrived in the United States on September 30, 1950, and was admitted to this country on October 10, 1950, as a student under section 4 (e) of the Immigration Act of 1924, until July 21, 1951. He was destined to the Morris Harvey College, Charleston, W. Va., in which school he was accepted for the purpose of taking a preengineering course.

The files further reflected that the alien was enrolled in Morris Harvey College on January 25, 1950, at which time he carried 13 night hours study. It appears from the record, however, that the alien has gradually dropped his studies and at the present time he is carrying three semester hours only. He is not presently employed, but had been employed by a construction company in West Virginia, which employment he undertook without permission from the immigration authorities. The alien has one brother and two uncles and aunts living in this country. His mother and one sister reside in Greece.

The quota for Greece, to which the alien is chargeable, is oversubscribed and an immigration visa is not readily attainable. The facts appear to indicate that the alien is not a bona fide student but sought this method of entry in order to gain admission to the United States. The record presents no facts which would justify the enactment of special legislation granting him a preference over other nationals of Greece who desire to enter this country but remain abroad and await their turn in the issuance of immigration visas.

Accordingly, the Department of Justice is unable to recommend enactment of the bill.

Yours sincerely,

_____,
Deputy Attorney General.

Senator Harley M. Kilgore, the author of the bill, has submitted the following information in support of the bill:

LOS ANGELES 34, CALIF.,
September 27, 1951.

Re S. 1428

Mr. ROSENBERGER,
Office of Senator Kilgore,
Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

DEAR SIR: We have been advised that there is some discrepancy about the address of John Tzanavaris' mother. This information pertains to subject bill.

Mrs. Krysoula Tzanavaris resides permanently at the residence of Mr. Lee Varis, 7218 Thirty-fourth Avenue, Jackson Heights, Long Island, N. Y. Prior to that she has resided at 259-19 Frances Lewis Boulevard, Rosedale 10, Long Island, N. Y., with her brother. At the present time Mrs. Tzanavaris has gone to Greece to aid her father who is failing in old age and expected to die soon. Upon completion of her affairs there she intends to return to her permanent residence with her family in the United States and has formally declared this intention to United States officials.

As you are probably well aware, many people in Charleston greatly appreciate the active interest the Senator has taken in this legislation. Its passage we feel will allow a deserving young man to get his education and take a useful place in the world. Thank you very much for your energetic interest.

Sincerely,

O. W. VAN PETTEN, Jr.

STATEMENT OF PERSONAL HISTORY OF JOHN TZANAVARIS; A GREEK NATIONAL NOW RESIDENT IN CHARLESTON, W. VA.

John Tzanavaris was born in Piraeus, Greece. His father, Demetrios Tzanavaris, was a Greek engineer employed by a French construction firm building the port of Piraeus. The father died in 1933 leaving a widow and five children. The family residence at the time of John Tzanavaris' birth and until 1941 was Praxiteles St. No. 64 in Piraeus.

John Tzanavaris' mother, Chryssoula Bourney Tzanavaris, is from the city of Karystos where her father, still living, is the mayor. Mrs. Tzanavaris has her first papers toward becoming an American citizen.

John Tzanavaris received his elementary and secondary education at a private school, the Lykeon Athena, for 9 years and was graduated at the head of his class from the First High School of Piraeus. Later he attended and completed his course at the Abetious College, a junior college, in Cairo, Egypt. He is now an advanced sophomore at Morris Harvey College in Charleston, W. Va.

Mr. Tzanavaris' education was interrupted by the German occupation of Greece. At that time—1941—he helped his family escape from occupied, famine-stricken Greece to Palestine. There, large for his age, more mature than his years, he joined an Allied brigade being organized under British leadership. After considerable training and field experience he was appointed to the liaison staff between Greek and British units in the Middle East. As a member of this staff he saw much active combat action in the Western Desert Campaign, participating in all the battles up to El Alamein. There Mr. Tzanavaris was wounded, decorated for bravery and cited for heroism in the face of the enemy. Being invalided back to Cairo, he was attached in an intelligence capacity to the Cairo Security Headquarters of the British GHQ. It was while serving with this unit that he managed to complete his work at the Abetios College.

After the war, in 1946, Mr. Tzanavaris returned to Greece and was honorably discharged from the Army. He took up civilian residence at Hyppolitou Street No. 2 in Athens and was employed by the Greek Ministry of Transport until the end of 1946 when his family returned home. He joined them at Cordeliou Street No. 6 and was their main support when he worked as translator and administrative assistant for the American Mission for Aid to Greece. Mr. Tzanavaris terminated his employment with AMAG when he was offered a more responsible and better-paid position with the British police mission as an instructor for the Greek gendarmerie and town police. Prior to his departure for the United States, Mr. Tzanavaris was employed by the Shell Oil Co. as products accountant. Documents now in the possession of the United States consulate in Athens will verify that Mr. Tzanavaris' employment has been very satisfactory. At the present time Mr. Tzanavaris is employed by the Carbide & Carbon Chemicals Corp. as a chemical assistant in the research laboratories in South Charleston. He is, at the same time continuing his studies to become a chemical engineer at Morris Harvey College.

Mr. Tzanavaris has never belonged to any political parties or any political organizations of any kind. His security has been approved by the security police of Athens, the British Security Service, the American Mission for Aid to Greece, the Shell Oil Co., the Greek General Staff, the American Embassies in Athens and Cairo.

He is in excellent health, weighing 157 pounds, 6 feet, 1 inch in height, blonde-haired, blue-eyed. Being athletic, he is very fond of sports—particularly basketball, swimming, and water polo. He served as athletic councilor to the YMCA in Athens and captained and coached the champion basketball team of the Shell Oil Co. John Tzanavaris has a marked aptitude for technical subjects, is polylingual, fluent in Arabic, Italian, French, Greek and, of course, English. Through intensive reading and experience, he is quite familiar with American customs and history. His ideals and philosophy are consistent with the American way.

It is his desire to continue his education until he has been granted a bachelor of science in chemical engineering after which he will continue to do research for Carbide and make his home in Charleston. It is significant to note that both John's mother and his sister, Dora, have their first papers toward American citizenship and that his brother, Lee Varis, is a full American citizen of good standing in Jackson Heights, Long Island, N. Y.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate statement of my personal history.

JOHN TZANAVARIS.

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA,
County of Kanawha, to wit:

I, A. G. Wamock, Jr., a notary public of said County of Kanawha, State of West Virginia, do certify that John Tzanavaris whose name is signed to the within writing bearing date the 6th day of January 1951, has this day acknowledged the same before me in my said county.

My commission expires January 20, 1957.

Given under my hand this 6th day of January 1951.

[SEAL] A. G. WAMOCK, Jr., *Notary Public.*

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (S. 1428) should be enacted.

O